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Mr. Clay on Texas.

RALEIGH, April 17, 1844.

Gentlemen.—Subsequently to my departure from Ashland, in December last, I received various communications from popular assemblages and private individuals, requesting an expression of my opinion upon the question of the annexation of Texas to the United States. I have borne to reply to them, because it was not very convenient, during the progress of my journey, to do so, and for other reasons. I did not think it proper, unnecessarily, to introduce at present a new element among the other exciting subjects which agitate and engross the public mind. The rejection of the overture of Texas, some years ago, to become annexed to the U. S., had met with general acquiescence. Nothing had since occurred materially to vary the question. I had seen no evidence of a desire being entertained, on the part of any considerable portion of the American people, that Texas should become an integral part of the United States. During my sojourn in New Orleans, I had, indeed, been greatly surprised, by information which I received from Texas, that, in the course of last fall, a voluntary overture had proceeded from the Executive of the United States to the Authorities of Texas to conclude a Treaty of Annexation; and that, in order to overcome the repugnance felt by any of them to a negotiation upon the subject, strong, and, as I believed, erroneous, representations had been made to them of a state of opinion in the Senate of the United States favorable to the ratification of such a treaty. According to these representations, it had been ascertained that a number of Senators, varying from thirty-five to forty-two, were ready to sanction such a treaty. I was aware, too, that holders of Texas lands and Texan scrip, and speculators in them, were actively engaged in promoting the object of annexation. Still, I did not believe that any Executive of the United States would venture upon so grave and momentous a proceeding, not only without any general manifestation of public opinion in favor of it, but in direct opposition to strong and decided expressions of public disapprobation. But it appears that I was mistaken. To the astonishment of the whole nation, we are now informed that a treaty of annexation has been actually concluded, and is to be submitted to the Senate for its consideration. The motives for my silence, therefore, no longer remain, and I feel it to be my duty to present an exposition of my views and opinions upon the question, for what they may be worth, to the public consideration. I adopt this method as being more convenient than several replies to the respective communications which I have received.

I regret that I have not the advantage of a view of the treaty itself, so as to enable me to adopt an expression of my opinion to the actual conditions and stipulations which it contains. Not possessing that opportunity, I am constrained to treat the question according to what I presume to be the terms of the treaty. If, without the loss of national character, without the hazard of foreign war, with the general concurrence of the nation, without any danger to the integrity of the Union, and without giving an unreasonable price for Texas, the question of annexation were presented, it would appear in quite a different light from that in which, I apprehend, it is now to be regarded.

The United States acquired a title to Texas, extending, as I believe, to the Rio del Norte, by the treaty of 1841, by his master America Busee, of the County of Franklin, which assignee, Book 63, page 92, having been a trustee of said Dow's title in such case.

ZILPHIA DOW.

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LOSURE.

Byron then of Wood County of Oxford, on the 27th of May, A. D. 1842, by his master America Busee, of the County of Franklin, which assignee, Book 63, page 92, having been a trustee of said Dow's title in such case.

WILLIAM DOBLE.

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responsible, thirty
sequence of the help-
afflicted with the in-
woman to be de-
yell and wife.
will please forward
er services, to
ISAAC HOWE.
344

Diana Doble left me
and has fled to Paris
and all persons harbor-
account, for I will
er this date.

WILLIAM DOBLE.

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MBALL,
T. L. A. W.,
HILLS, M.
WSON,
44,
COUNTY.
otherwise, promptly

honor. It is, therefore, perfectly idle and ridiculous, if not dishonorable, to talk of resuming our title to Texas, as we had never parted with it. We can no more do that than Spain can resume Florida, France Louisiana, or Great Britain the thirteen colonies, now composing a part of the United States.

During the administration of Mr. Adams, Mr. Poinsett, Minister of the United States at Mexico, was instructed by me, with the President's authority, to propose a re-purchase of Texas, but he forebore even to make an overture for that purpose. Upon his return to the United States, he informed me, at New Orleans, that his reason for making it was, that he knew the purchase was wholly impracticable, and that he was persuaded that, if he made the overture, it would have no other effect than to aggravate irritations, already existing, upon matters of difference between the two countries.

The events which have since transpired in Texas are well known. She revolted against the Government of Mexico, flew to arms, and finally fought and won the memorable battle of San Jacinto, annihilating a Mexican army and making a captive of the Mexican President. This signal success of that Revolution was greatly aided, if not wholly achieved, by citizens of the United States who had migrated to Texas. These success, if they could not always be prevented by the Government of the United States, were furnished in a manner and to an extent which brought upon us some national reproach in the eyes of an impartial world. And, in my opinion, they impose on us the obligation of scrupulously avoiding the imputation of having instigated and aided the Revolution with the ultimate view of territorial aggrandizement. After the battle of San Jacinto, the United States recognized the independence of Texas, in conformity with the principle and practice which have always prevailed in their councils of recognizing the Government "de facto," without regarding the question *de jure*. That recognition did not affect or impair the rights of Mexico, or change the relations which existed between her and Texas. She, on the contrary, has preserved all her rights, and has continued to assert, and so far as I know yet asserts, her right to reduce Texas to obedience, as a part of the Republic of Mexico. According to late intelligence, it is probable that she has agreed upon a temporary suspension of hostilities; but, if that has been done, I presume it is with the purpose, upon the termination of the armistice, of renewing the war and enforcing her rights, as she considers them.

This narrative shows the present actual condition of Texas, so far as I have information about it. If it be correct, Mexico has not abandoned, but persists in the assertion of her rights by actual forces of arms, which, if suspended, are intended to be renewed. Under these circumstances, if the Government of the United States were to acquire Texas, it would acquire along with it all the incumbrances which Texas is under, and among them the actual or suspended war between Mexico and Texas. Of that consequence there cannot be a doubt. Annexation and war with Mexico are identical. Now, for one, I certainly am not willing to involve this country in a foreign war for the object of acquiring Texas. I know there are those who regard such a war with indifference and as a trifling affair, on account of the weakness of Mexico, and her inability to inflict serious injury upon this country. But I do not look upon it thus lightly. I regard all wars as great calamities, to be avoided, if possible, and honorable peace as the wisest and truest policy of this country. What the United States most need, are union, peace, and patience. Nor do I think that the weakness of a Power should form a motive, in any case, for inducing us to engage in or to deprecate the evils of war. Honor and good faith and justice are equally due from this country towards the weak as towards the strong. And, if an act of injustice were to be perpetrated towards any Power, it would be more compatible with the dignity of the nation, and, in my judgment, less dishonorable, to inflict it upon a powerful instead of a weak foreign nation. But we are perfectly sure that we should be free from injury in a state of war with Mexico? Have we any security that countless numbers of foreign vessels, under the authority and flag of Mexico, would prey upon our defenseless commerce in the Mexican gulf, on the Pacific ocean, and on every other sea and ocean? What commerce, on the other hand, does Mexico offer, as an indemnity for our losses, to the gallantry and enterprise of our countrymen? This view of the subject supposes that the war would be confined to the United States and Mexico, as the only belligerents. But have we any certain guaranty that Mexico would obtain no allies among the great European Powers? Suppose any such Powers, jealous of our increasing greatness, and disposed to check our growth and cripple us, were to take part in behalf of Mexico in the war, how would the different belligerents present themselves to Christendom and the enlightened world? We have been seriously charged with an inordinate spirit of territorial aggrandizement; and, without admitting the justice of the charge, it must be owned that we have made vast acquisitions of territory within the last forty years.

Suppose G. Britain and France, or one of them, were to take part with Mexico, and by a manifesto, were to proclaim that their objects were to assist a weak and helpless ally to check the spirit of encroachment and ambition of an already overgrown Republic, seeking still further acquisitions of territory, to maintain the independence of Texas, disconnected with the United States, and to prevent the further propagation of slavery from the United States, what would be the effect of such allegations upon the judgment of

Assuming that the annexation of Texas is war with Mexico, is it competent to the treaty-making power to plunge this country into war, not only without the concurrence of, but without deigning to consult Congress, to which, by the Constitution, belongs exclusively the power of declaring war?

I have hitherto considered the question upon the supposition that the annexation is attempted without the assent of Mexico. If she yields her consent, that would materially affect the foreign aspect of the question, if it did not remove all foreign difficulties. On the assumption of that aspect, the question would be confined to the domestic considerations upon which annexation is proposed. I do not think that Texas ought to be received into the Union, as an integral part of it, in decided opposition to the wishes of a considerable and respectable portion of the Confederacy.

I think it far more wise and important to compose and harmonize the present Confederacy, as it now exists, than to introduce any European or foreign attack upon either. Each would afford a secure refuge to the persecuted and oppressed driven into exile by either of the others. They would emulate each other in improvements, in free institutions, and in the science of self-government. Whilst Texas has adopted our Constitution as the model of hers, she has, in some important particulars, greatly improved upon it.

Although I have felt compelled, from the nature of the inquiries addressed to me to extend this communication to a much greater length than I could have wished, I could not do justice to the subject, and fairly and fully expose my own opinions in a shorter space. In conclusion, they may be stated in a few words to be, that I consider the annexation of Texas at this time, with the assent of Mexico, as a measure compromising the national character, involving us certainly in war with Mexico, probably with other foreign Powers, dangerous to the integrity of the Union, inexpedient in the present financial condition of the country and not called for by any general expression of public opinion.

In am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

ident Jackson extended only as far west as the centre of the Desert or Grand Prairie, which lies east of the river Nueces; and that, for the former, the payment of one million of dollars was authorized, whilst, by the administration of President Jackson, the American minister was permitted to go as high as four, and, if indispensable, five millions. Both authorized agreements for smaller portions of territory, and the payments were modified accordingly. In respect to the proposed stipulation for the ultimate incorporation of the inhabitants into the Union, both instructions were identical.

In August, 1837, a proposition was received at the Department of State, from the Texan minister at Washington, proposing a negotiation for the annexation of Texas to the United States. This was the first time the question of annexation of a foreign independent State had ever been presented to this government. In deciding upon the disposition that ought to be made of it, I did not find it necessary to consider the question of constitutional power, nor the manner in which the object should be accomplished, if deemed expedient and proper. Both these points were therefore, in terms, passed over in the reply of the Secretary of State to the Texan minister, as subjects the consideration of which had not been entered upon by the Executive.

The first of these—viz: constitutional power—is now presented by your inquiries; not, however, in precisely the same form. Then the application was for the immediate admission of Texas into the Union as an independent State; your question looks only to its annexation as part of the territory of the United States. There is no express power given to any department of the government to purchase territory except for the object specified in the constitution, viz: for arsenals, &c; and but the power has, on several very important occasions, been regarded as embraced in the treaty-making power; and territories have been so annexed with a view and under engagements for their ultimate admission into the Union as States. If there be nothing in the situation or condition of Texas, which would render its admission heretofore into the Union as a new State improper, I cannot perceive any objections, on constitutional grounds, to its annexation as a territory. In speaking of the right to admit new States, I must, of course, be understood as referring to the power of Congress. The Executive and Senate may, as I have already observed, by the exercise of the treaty-making power, acquire territory; but new States can only be admitted by Congress; and the sole authority over the subject, which is given to it by the constitution, is contained in the following provision, viz: "new States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union." The only restrictions imposed upon this general power are, 1st: That no new States shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other State; nor, 2ndly, "Any State formed by the junction of two or more States, or more States, or parts of States, without the consent of the legislatures concerned, as well as of Congress"—restrictions which have no bearing upon the present question. The matter, therefore, stands as it would do if the constitution said "new States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union," without addition or restriction.

Along as an unpledged delegate to the Baltimore Convention, you ask my opinion in regard to the constitutionality and expediency of an immediate annexation of Texas to the United States, as soon as the assent of Texas may be had to such annexation. Upon the receipt of your letter, I caused you forthwith to be informed that your request should be complied with in full season for the convention. This promise I shall now perform. But, lest my motives in making a public avowal of my opinions, whilst a negotiation is supposed to be pending, should be misconstrued, I shall send this to a friend who will delay its delivery as long as that can be done consistently with a faithful compliance with the requirements of your letter, and the general object for which it was written.

You by no means overrate the importance of the subject upon which you have been pleased to address me. It is not only a question of intense interest to every part of the country, but is unhappily also one in regard to which we may not promise ourselves that unanimity in opinions which is so important when great national questions like this are to be decided. That those which I am about to express will, in at least one important particular, differ from that of many friends, political and personal, whose judgments and parity of views I hold in high and habitual respect, I can well imagine; and it is quite evident, from the tenor of your letter, that they will not in all respects correspond with your own. I, however, such of my fellow-citizens as are neither influenced by prejudices, nor warped by self-interest, concede to my opinions the merit of having been formed under views directed to the preservation and advancement of the honor and best interests of our common country, as a whole, and expressed with a sincerity which has overlooked, as far as our feeble natures will permit us to do, all personal considerations, my most favorable anticipations will be realized.

It has already been made my duty to act officially at least two several occasions, but in different forms, upon the subject-matter to which your questions have reference.

Having charge of the Department of State in 1829, I prepared, by direction of the President, instructions to our minister at Mexico, by which he was directed to open, without delay, a negotiation with the Mexican government for the purchase of the greater part of the then province of Texas, and by which he was likewise authorized to insert in the treaty a provision similar to that in the Louisiana and Florida treaties, for the incorporation of the inhabitants of Texas into the Union, as soon as it could be done consistently with the principles of the federal constitution. The practicability, as well as expediency, of making Canada a member of Union, did, certainly, to some extent at least, occupy the minds of our public men, as well before the close of the revolution as between that event and the formation of the new constitution. This is however, only a link in the chain of evidence, to make probable what subsequent events make certain, that the framers of the constitution had their eyes upon this very question, when this section was finally settled. That part of the constitution, as it appears by the journal of the proceedings of the convention was presented in a variety of forms before it assumed the shape in which it was finally adopted.

In taking this step the administration of President Jackson renewed (but, as was supposed under more favorable circumstances) an attempt to accomplish the same object which had been made by its immediate predecessor. Instructions, similar to those of the latter administration, were sent from the Department of State to the same American minister at Mexico. I am not aware that there were any material differences between that, other than that those of 1827 proposed an acquisition of territory as far west as the Rio del Norte—being, I believe, the extreme western boundary

In the resolutions offered by Mr. Edmund Randolph as a basis for the new constitution, and which contained the first proposition of that character which were submitted to it, the power in question was described as follows, viz: that provision ought to be made for the admission of States lawfully arising within the limits of the United States, whether arising from a voluntary junction of government or otherwise, with the consent of a number voices in the legislature less than the whole." In Charles Pinckney's draft, it was proposed that "the legislature shall have power to admit new States into the Union on the same terms with the original States, provided two-thirds of the members present in both Houses agree"—leaving out the clause in respect to the character of the territory. Mr. Randolph's proposition, containing the restriction confining the power to States lawfully arising within the limits of the United States, was at one time adopted in Committee of the whole, and, in that State, referred with others to the committee of detail. In a draft of a constitution, reported by that committee, the article upon this subject contained the following proposition: 1st. That new States, lawfully constituted or established within the limits of the United States, might be admitted by the legislature in this government 2d. That to such admission, the consent of two-thirds of the members present in each House should be necessary. 3d. That if a new State should arise within the limits of any of the present States the consent of the legislature of such States should also be necessary to its admission. 4th. That if the admission was consented to the new States should be admitted on the same terms with the original States; and 5th. That the legislature might make conditions with the new States concerning the public debts then subsisting. The 2d, 4th, and 5th clauses were stricken out by the votes of the convention; and after that had been done, the following was adopted as a substitute for the whole, viz: "New States may be admitted by the legislature into the Union; but no new State shall be erected within the limits of any of the present States without the consent of the legislature of such State, as well as of the general legislature"—leaving out that part of the first clause which related to the domestic character of the territory; and this substitute was subsequently revised and amended, so as to make it conform in its phraseology to the section as it now stands in the constitution. These proceedings show that the proposition to restrict the power to admit new States to the territory within the original limits of the United States, was distinctly before the convention, once adopted by it, and finally rejected in favor of a clause making the power in this respect general. Whatever differences of opinion may exist as to the propriety of referring to extraneous matter to influence the construction of the constitution where its language is explicit, there can certainly be no objections to a resort to such aids to test the correctness of inferences, having no other basis than supposed improbabilities. I have not, therefore, been able to bring my mind to any other satisfactory conclusion than that it was the intention of the convention to give the power of admitting new States to Congress, with no other limitations than those which are specified in that instrument. The language employed, the specifications of certain restrictions the adoption and subsequent exclusion of that which is now referred to, together with the subsequent and continued action of the new government, all seem to combine to render this interpretation of the constitution the true one. Propositions for annexation can certainly be imagined, of a character so unwise and imprudent as to strike the minds of all with repugnance. But if we look over the conceded powers of Congress, we shall also find many others, the abuse of which might involve to an equally great extent, the well being of the republic, and against which abuse the constitution has provided no other safeguards than the responsibilities to their constituents and to the laws of the land, and those whose sanction is necessary to the validity of an act of Congress. Nor is it very unreasonable to suppose that those who based their government upon the great principle that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute new ones, in such forms as they may think most likely to effect their safety and happiness, should feel themselves secure in trusting to their representatives in the House, in the Senate, and in the executive chair, the right to admit new members into the confederacy, with no other restrictions than those which they have thought proper to specify.

It was under this view of the constitution that the purchase of Louisiana in 1803, only fifteen years after the adoption of the constitution, promising the incorporation of the ceded territory into the Union, and the admission, as soon as possible, of the inhabitants to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages, and immunities of citizens of the United States, was ratified, confirmed, and finally executed by every branch of the federal government whose co-operation is required by the constitution. It is true that Mr. Jefferson, in the interval between the negotiation and submission of the treaty to the Senate, threw out the opinion that the constitution had made no provision for one holding foreign territory nor for incorporating foreign States into the Union. The fact of his approving the treaty, and the laws necessary to its execution, must, however, be regarded as conclusive proof that, upon looking further into the matter, his opinion was changed: The attempt to convince him of his error was made by his friend, Governor Nicholas. The correspondence was, very soon after it took place, communicated to Congress, and although the public mind was at the time in a state of the highest excitement, and the administration daily assailed through every avenue by which it was deemed approachable, I am yet to see the first sentence of complaint upon that point, in any quarter of the Union. Even a resolution offered in the Senate, declaring annexation, "whenever it could be effected consistently with the public faith and treaty stipulations of the United States, desirable," was ordered to be laid upon the table; and a similar disposition was made in the House of the papers upon the subject, which had been referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and that committee discharged from the further consideration of the matter, upon its own application. Nor were the friendly relations then existing between that republic and the United States—to its honor be it said—in any perceptible degree impaired by this decision.

treaty for the cession of East and West Florida, containing the usual stipulation for ultimate incorporation into the Union, was ratified; and, upon the call of the names of the Senators present, it appeared that every one voted for the ratification. Upon the question of constitutional power, so far as that case went, the Senate of the United States had, therefore, become unanimous.

Certainly no remarks are necessary to show that there can be no possible difference produced in the constitutional question by the relative positions of the territory comprising Louisiana, the Floridas, and Texas, in respect to the old United States.

I have gone thus fully and minutely into this matter, as well from a deep sense of a vast importance of the question, as from a sincere desire to satisfy those of my friends who may differ from me on this point, and whose opinions I hold in the highest respect, that I have not yielded my assent hastily or unadvisedly to the views I have here taken of the subject.

Having thus given you my views upon the constitutional question, I will, with the same frankness answer the remaining portion of your inquiries, viz; the expediency of immediately annexing Texas to the United States, or so soon as her consent to such annexation may be obtained, to such admission, the consent of two-thirds of the members present in each House should be necessary. 3d. That if a new State should arise within the limits of any of the present States the consent of the legislature of such States should also be necessary to its admission. 4th. That if the admission was consented to the new States should be admitted on the same terms with the original States; and 5th. That the legislature might make conditions with the new States concerning the public debts then subsisting. The 2d, 4th, and 5th clauses were stricken out by the votes of the convention; and after that had been done, the following was adopted as a substitute for the whole, viz: "New States may be admitted by the legislature into the Union; but no new State shall be erected within the limits of any of the present States without the consent of the legislature of such State, as well as of the general legislature"—leaving out that part of the first clause which related to the domestic character of the territory; and this substitute was subsequently revised and amended, so as to make it conform in its phraseology to the section as it now stands in the constitution. These proceedings show that the proposition to restrict the power to admit new States to the territory within the original limits of the United States, was distinctly before the convention, once adopted by it, and finally rejected in favor of a clause making the power in this respect general. Whatever differences of opinion may exist as to the propriety of referring to extraneous matter to influence the construction of the constitution where its language is explicit, there can certainly be no objections to a resort to such aids to test the correctness of inferences, having no other basis than supposed improbabilities. I have not, therefore, been able to bring my mind to any other satisfactory conclusion than that it was the intention of the convention to give the power of admitting new States to Congress, with no other limitations than those which are specified in that instrument. The language employed, the specifications of certain restrictions the adoption and subsequent exclusion of that which is now referred to, together with the subsequent and continued action of the new government, all seem to combine to render this interpretation of the constitution the true one. Propositions for annexation can certainly be imagined, of a character so unwise and imprudent as to strike the minds of all with repugnance. But if we look over the conceded powers of Congress, we shall also find many others, the abuse of which might involve to an equally great extent, the well being of the republic, and against which abuse the constitution has provided no other safeguards than the responsibilities to their constituents and to the laws of the land, and those whose sanction is necessary to the validity of an act of Congress. Nor is it very unreasonable to suppose that those who based their government upon the great principle that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute new ones, in such forms as they may think most likely to effect their safety and happiness, should feel themselves secure in trusting to their representatives in the House, in the Senate, and in the executive chair, the right to admit new members into the confederacy, with no other restrictions than those which they have thought proper to specify.

Standing in this position before the country, it becomes my duty to consider whether either the nature of the question or the circumstances of the case, have so far changed as to justify me in now advising a policy from which I then, in the most solemn form, dissented.

In giving to you, and through you to the public, the result of a very careful and dispassionate examination of this grave question, I should neither do justice to yourself, to the patriotic State which you, in conjunction with others, are to represent in the convention, to the people of the United States, nor to my own position, if I failed to accompany it with a brief exposition of the grounds upon which I have proceeded. It is in that way only that justice can be done to my interest; and that is all I desire. The annexation of the territory, and the consequent assumption by us of a responsibility to protect and defend its inhabitants, would in respect to the consideration to which I am about to refer, stand upon the same footing with that of its admission as a State. The recognition of Texas as an independent State, was a measure which received, in various and appropriate forms the sanction of every department of the government, whose co-operation was necessary to its validity, and had my hearty concurrence. From this act of our government just and proper in all respects as it was, an inference has however, been drawn, and brought to bear upon the present question, not only very far beyond its real bearing but by which its true character is entirely reversed. Many persons who enter upon the consideration of the subject with the purest intentions, and are incapable of knowingly giving a false interpretation to any thing connected with it, take it for granted that the United States, in recognizing the independence of Texas, declared to the world, not only that she was independent in fact, but also that she was such of right.

Acting upon this erroneous construction, they very naturally conclude, that, having gone thus far, having examined into, and passed not only upon the existence of her independence, also upon her right of enjoyment, it is now (and more especially after the lapse of several years) too late to hesitate upon the question of annexation on the ground of any existing controversy upon those points. The fallacy of this reasoning will be apparent when it is considered that the usage of nations to acknowledge the government, *de facto*, of every country, was established for the express purpose of avoiding all inquiry into, or the expression of any opinion upon, the question of right between the contending parties. They cannot inquire beyond that point without interfering with the internal concerns of other nations—a practice which all disclaim, and a disclaimer which has been our invariable usage not only to make, but to enforce with scrupulous fidelity. To recognize the independence of the government *de facto*, as also a matter of state necessity; for without it, neither commercial nor diplomatic intercourse between any such power and the nations of the world could be carried on with success, and the social interests of mankind require that these should not be arrested by quarrels between contending parties, in regard to their respective right to the supreme power. The laws and usages of nations require the observance of a strict neutrality between contending parties, as long as the war lasts. It is due, also, from every government to its own citizens, to declare when a revolted colony shall be regarded as an independent nation. Because "it belongs to the government alone to make the declaration; and, because, until it is made, or the parent State relinquishes her claims, courts of justice must consider the ancient state of things as remaining unaltered, and the sovereign power of the parent State over that colony as still subsisting." But nothing can be farther from giving to the act of recognition its true character, than to suppose it has the slightest bearing upon the rights of the parties; it being, as I have already said, resorted to for the express purpose of avoiding any such construction. Such is not only the law and usages of nations, but such also have been the reiterated avowals of our own government. The message adds: "The United States have an immediate interest in seeing an end put to the state of hostilities between Mexico and Texas," following up the remark with a forcible remonstrance against the continuance of the war, and very just and impressive statement of the reasons why it should cease. This remonstrance is, in my opinion, entirely just and perfectly proper. The government of the United States should be at all times ready to interpose its good offices to bring about a speedy, and, as far as practicable, a satisfactory adjustment of this long pending controversy. Its whole influence should be exerted, constantly, zealously and in good faith, to advance so desirable an object; and in the process of time it can, without doubt, be accomplished. But what, my dear sir, is the true and undisputed character of the remedy for these evils, which would be applied by the "immediate annexation of Texas to the United States?" Is it more or less than saying to Mexico, "We feel ourselves aggrieved by the continuance of this war between you and Texas; we have an interest in seeing it terminated; we will accomplish that object by taking the disputed territory yourselves; we will make Texas a part of the United States, so that those plans of reconquest, which we know you are maturing, to be successful, must be made so against the power that we can bring into the contest; if the war to be continued, as we understand to be your design, the United States are henceforth to be regarded as one of the belligerents?"

We must look at this matter as it really stands. We shall act under the eye of an intelligent, observing world; and the affair cannot be made to wear a different aspect from what it deserves, if even we had the disposition (which we have not) to throw over it disengaged of any kind. We should consider whether there is any way in which the peace of this country can be preserved, should an immediate annexation take place, save one—and that is, according to present appearances, the improbable event that Mexico will be deterred from the farther prosecution of the war by the apprehension of our power. How does that matter stand? She has caused us to be informed, both at Mexico and here, in a manner the most formal and solemn, that she will feel herself constrained, by every consideration that can influence the conduct of a nation, to regard the fact of annexation as an act of war on the part of the United States, and that she will not, notwithstanding, prosecute her attempts to regain Texas, regardless of consequences. Exceptions are, however, taken by the President, and I think very justly taken, to the manner in which this determination has been announced. The Mexican government should certainly have applied in a becoming spirit to ours for explanations of its intention. If it found this government under the impression that Mexico, although it might not be willing to acknowledge its independence, had abandoned all serious hope of reconquering Texas, Mexico should have assured us of our error, and remonstrated against any action on our part based on that erroneous assumption, declared firmly, if it pleased, but in that courteous and respectful manner which is alone suited to the intercourse between nations who profess to be friends, its determination to oppose us. Instead of taking a course, the propriety of which was so obvious, she first assumes, upon grounds which were neither proper nor safe for her to act upon, that this government had designs upon Texas,

and our adherence in the face of the world, was too clear to be doubted. Thus believing, I had, on the occasion to which I have referred, in the faithful discharge of the trust which the people had reposed in me, but one course to pursue, and that was promptly but respectfully adopted.

I return now to the question, Has the condition of the contest between Texas and Mexico, for the sovereignty of the former, so far changed as to render these principles now inapplicable?

What is the attitude which these two states at this moment occupy towards each other? Are they at war, or are they not? We cannot evade this question if we would. To enumerate all the circumstances bearing upon it, in a communication like this, would be impracticable; nor is it necessary. In respect to the parties themselves, there would seem to be no misunderstanding upon the subject. Mexico has been incessant in her avowals, as well to our government as to others, of the continuance of the war, and of her determination to prosecute it. How does Texas regard her position in respect to the war with Mexico?

Three years subsequent to our recognition of her independence, we find her entering into a stipulation with a foreign power to accept of her mediation to bring about a cessation of hostilities between her and Mexico, engaging to assume a million sterling of the debt due from Mexico to the subjects of that power, if she, through her influence, obtained from Mexico an unlimited truce in respect to the war then raging between her and Texas within one month, and a treaty of peace in six.

As late as last June, we see a proclamation of the President of Texas, declaring a suspension of hostilities between the two powers during the pendency of negotiations to be entered upon between them, issued on the supposition that a similar proclamation would be issued by Mexico; and actual hostilities are now only suspended by an armistice to be continued for a specified and short period, for the sake of negotiation.

Every Delegate should feel himself bound to vote for that man who has by all his acts been a firm believer in the great Democratic Creed:—One who is acquainted with the wants of the people—one who is anxious to promote and defend the interests of the masses, and secure the rights and privileges of all classes. One who is thoroughly acquainted with our Constitution, and is willing, like Jefferson, to abide by that construction which is in harmony with its spirit and intention,—in fine, one whose ability and talents best qualify him for the independent head of an independent Nation.

Every Delegate should feel himself bound to vote for that man who has been heretofore, and is now, best fitted to guide this great Republic; whose opinions are just, firm and noble. The present is the time for Patriots to sleep. Foes without and foes within should warn every Democrat to be on the lookout—to be vigilant and active. The man selected for President should possess these qualities in the highest degree. He should be quickly alive to each and all the interests of the Republic. He should know his duty and fearlessly perform it.

The man selected for the Presidency should be independent of cliques, favorites, and pledges; for, be he who he may, if he can be successfully charged with favoritism, trickery, and other schemes of the Demagogue, we need not look forward with any degree of hope to his elevation. One candidate selected for this high office has already ventured upon this scheming process, and is at this time roaming up and down the country to influence his own election, against the customs and beneath the dignity of all Presidential Candidates.

The Candidate selected by the Democrats should

be a man of great moral strength and power, whose character for truth, consistency, integrity, honor, firmness and sincerity, has never been questioned. Worth makes the man, the world over; and great moral worth adds to the influence and success of a candidate for office. A vacillating, hesitating, visionary and expediency-loving man cannot secure confidence in his opinions, enthusiasm in his support, or respect for his character. Frankness and directness are likewise considered the highest virtues of the citizen. They ought to be esteemed not less highly, as attributes of the Statesman. Let, then, a man be selected whose moral and religious virtues are of the most elevated kind.

A candidate should be selected, at this Convention, who is most likely to succeed. If this country has

any hopes of future prosperity and advancement, it

must look, to a very great extent, to the policy and

principles and principles of the old Republican party.

The present Democratic party is the only true repre-

sentative of those principles. If that party should be

defeated in the coming contest, the country will re-

ceive a blow from which years of future Republi-

cian policy will not recover, or even change it.

Ability, then, should be, and must be one great element

in the selection of a candidate for the Presidency.

Finally, the Delegates to the Baltimore Convention

should establish, in our opinion, the one term prin-

ciple. It has long been advocated by many distin-

guished Democrats, such as Jackson, Calhoun, and others.

A vast number in the Democratic party still adhere

to and advocate this doctrine. There is now a gool

opportunity of starting on this principle. Everything

is favorable to such a movement. This step once ta-

ken, will have a tendency to unite the Democrats of

all parties. It will forever silence that mean, crang-

ing, office-seeking, office-making, patronage-having

spirit, at present so fearfully rife throughout the length

and breadth of the land.

In conclusion, we would say, so far as the nomi-

nation and result of this Convention is concerned, act

our will, but that of the great Republican Family be

done. We feel ready and willing to support the can-

didate selected, if he be any of the distinguished men

named by our citizens in different portions of the Uni-

on for that office. We do not wish to disguise the

feeling, however, that we could fight with greater

courage, with more faith, and with greater zeal for

some candidates than for others. This, however,

should not, as it certainly will not, abate our confi-

dence in the righteousness of our cause, or diminish

our hope and ceaseless prayer for victory.

The County Commissioners will be in session Tues-

day, Wednesday and Thursday of this week at the

Court House.

There will be a session of the Supreme Judicial

Court at this place commencing on Tuesday next.

Probate Court the week after.

17 We intended to have published this week Mr.

Van Buren's letter on the subject of annexation, but

as it is more lengthy than we anticipated, we are un-

der the necessity of postponing a part of it until next

week. Our readers will find this letter to be a most

able exposition of the Texas question. It is worthy

of a careful examination.

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44.

DREADFUL RIOTS AT KENSINGTON, PENN. MANY PERSONS WOUNDED, AND SEVERAL KILLED.

On Monday, a week ago yesterday, a riot occurred at Kensington, being in the suburbs of Philadelphia. The Native American party had met to listen to an Address from Mr. Kramer. He had not proceeded far when a gun was fired, and a general rush made to the spot whence came the report. Valley after valley succeeded, and men came running from all quarters armed with guns, bludgeons, and stones. The assailants were driven into various houses in the vicinity, and the houses themselves injured, and the furniture broken into fragments.

The riot lasted about one hour, during which time hundreds of reports from fire arms were heard. At least fifty persons fell wounded. Several persons were reported to have been killed. The Native Americans and Irish Catholics have been the parties engaged in these riots.

The next day the riots were renewed. A Philadelphia paper gives the following account of them:

THREE O'CLOCK P. M.—We have just left the dreadful yet picturesque scene. The market houses are all in flames, and quite a row of brick and frame dwellings whose frightened occupants have fled in all directions for safety and for life.

The dark red clouds are lighting up with a horrid glare the blue and quiet sky. Rolls of bright smoke taking fantastic shapes thicken the air while here and there through the dense crowd the flame tongues of living light may be seen licking with fire some new building preparatory to its destruction. In front may be seen congregations of excited men, shouting, talking, arguing, blustering, and tossing the arms in the air with vehement agitation. Beyond on that open space the plumed heads and glittering swords of the cavalry are waving and glancing in the lurid light, while the heavy tread of men, and the ringing clang of muskets betoken the near presence of the infantry. The adjacent streets are deserted. The houses are close and abandoned. Since the approach of the military all is still, save that here and there the shriek of a child, or the sob of a woman, or the deep oath of a man breaks the solemn stillness.

Dim figures more suspiciously in the shade as it seeking concealment, while wretched looking beings driven from their abodes, houseless and homeless, are stealing off with beds, pillows, chairs and tables upon their shoulders, looking for some distant place of deposit. Hark!—a shot!—a scream!—a rush of soldiers!—and another victim is borne home for surgical assistance. A solitary one horse cart, as we leave, girls, a boy, and an infant all crying. It contains some furniture, and by its side walks a man, who turns back to cast one lingering gaze on the burning pile at hand? and with a groan of intense agony, exclaims, "The toll of twenty years all gone in one moment! My God! have I deserved this?" The cart drove on, and we heard no more. We walked homeward thinking, can it be possible that this is a land of Freedom and laws, a land of Christianity?

TEN O'CLOCK P. M.—We have just learned that an Irish weaver named Joseph Rice, a dweller in some of the houses assaulted in Cadwallader street, but who is said to have taken no part in the contest, as we shot through the head while looking over the fence to see how the riot progressed. We looked at the corpse as it lay mangled on the floor of its late habitation, with none save a weeping widow and two fatherless children, sitting in agony beside it. It was a shocking picture.

A man named John S. Fagan, an American, was shot through the shoulder, the ball coming out of his back. A young man, 22 years of age, named John Shreeves, a painter, living from above Green street, was shot through the head, and instantly killed. He was an American, and had only been married three months. A man named Deal was shot in the arm. About 7 o'clock P. M. a young man returning from his work and passing the scene of action, was badly wounded. A great many others were shot and several killed, whose names we could not ascertain.

The military arrived on the ground about 8 o'clock, P. M. They consisted of the companies of the first brigade, under Gen. Cadwallader. The Sheriff was also on the ground with a small civil posse. As the military approached the market house, they were fired upon from a house on Washington street, but nobody was hurt. Those who fired the gun—some seven or eight Irishmen—precipitately fled, and were not captured. The presence of the military had the effect of restoring almost an immediate quiet.

The military occupied all the vacant ground at the scene of destruction. They were stationed along Master, Cadwallader, and Washington streets, and the German town road, with cannon planted at every commanding point. A regular guard was set, and patrolling parties kept in constant motion. About 10 o'clock several of the most active of our fire companies arrived on the ground, and protected by the military went into service, and in about an hour succeeded in arresting the conflagration. They went quickly to work, and did immense execution. They merit all praise.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK.—A few guns are being discharged at intervals in Master street. Military in motion, but no rioters discovered. It is said that from 20 to 30 houses altogether have been consumed, located on Cadwallader, Master, and Washington streets—some large handsome dwellings, but generally poor buildings.

Gov. Dorr has been pronounced guilty by a Rhode Island Jury. Guilty of what? Why, guilty of being an American citizen; and will probably be fined and imprisoned.

Hoole Factory.—Five Woolen Factories are to be put in operation the coming fall in different portions of Maine.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DAY IN ALL THE STATES.—DR. DUNCAN'S BILL.

"A bill is now before the Federal House of Representatives, providing for the election of electors of President and Vice President on the same day in all the States of the Union. This bill was introduced by Mr. Duncan, who has made several unsuccessful attempts to bring it under consideration. But however desirable is this bill, however essential to the purity of elections, however imperiously required by the present low condition of political morals, we have no hope of its passage during the present session. A Presidential election is now pending, and many of the politicians, deeply interested in the event, have very few scruples about the means of success; and with full knowledge of existing abuses, and strong hope of profit from them, they cannot be very solicitous about any corrective till the election has passed. And as a new campaign will be planned, and candidates will enter the field for a new contest, so soon as the election is decided, we have no great hope of this bill from the next Congress, unless the people speak plainly to their representatives, and insist on its passage. We therefore call upon the press and the people, throughout the country, to demand this bill immediately; and as one mode of speaking, we call upon the citizens to send their demand in the shape of petitions. We also urge every citizen who corresponds with his Representative or Senator at Washington, to urge upon each the speedy passage of this bill.—Philadelphia Ledger.

We sincerely hope Dr. Duncan's Bill may be passed by this Congress. That something of the kind should be done, there can be no manner of doubt. As the Ledger says, "let the people and the press throughout the country demand the passage of this Bill immediately. The people owe it to themselves, to their free institutions, to their form of Government, and to their patriotism to defeat the re-enactment of the frauds of '40; and thereby frustrate the powers of darkness." We say let such a Bill be enacted without delay.

VIRGINIA ELECTION.

From the latest returns we learn that the Whigs have made considerable gain in the House of Delegates. The Richmond Enquirer claims two majority on joint ballot, which will secure a Democratic U. S. Senator. The popular vote of Virginia is still in favor of the Democracy by about 1500. Virginia will be true to her Democratic faith the coming fall. The reason of the Spring election terminating as it has, is on account of the qualification of voters. A man in

Virginia may vote in as many Counties as he has a freehold. In this way a single individual may vote in a dozen places. Our friends feel confident that Virginia will go right in the fall, because in the Presidential election the freehold qualification will be of no avail.

Mr. Bayly, Dem., is elected in Wise's Congressional District.

Texas Treaty.—We learn by our exchanges that the late Treaty was fraudulently published; or, at any rate, published without authority and against the injunction of secrecy imposed upon matters of this kind. It was first published in the New York Post. A special committee has been appointed by the Senate, of whom Mr. Archer is chairman, to investigate the manner in which the Treaty and other Documents became published. A summons has been sent to Mr. Boggs, publisher of the Post, to make his appearance at Washington. He has accordingly departed for the Capitol.

Insurrection in St. Domingo.—By the arrival of the Schr. Wm. Wilson, at New York, intelligence has been received that the blacks, on the 4th and 5th instants, had risen upon the whites and Mongrel French at Aux Cayes, driven them out, and pillaged the place. The women and children escaped to the vessels in the harbor. After a temporary arrangement, the fugitives again went to their homes. All was confusion and uncertainty.

CHARACTER OF MR. VAN BUREN—WHIG TESTIMONY.

The National Intelligencer, the leading federal paper published at Washington, in an editorial article published August 26th, 1828, thus speaks of Mr. Van Buren. It is almost unnecessary to say that the Intelligencer at that time, as now, was the open uncompromising opponent of Mr. Van Buren, and was likely to have said nothing more in favor of that distinguished Statesman than what truth forced him to admit. The extract is from an article advocating the re-election of Mr. Adams to the Presidency:—

"Once more we are obliged, and for this time, reluctantly, to introduce by name to our readers, the Hon. MARTIN VAN BUREN, the distinguished Senator from the State of New York; the 'master spirit' who can, when he sets himself about it, accomplish more than any other man can dream of. The fascinating address of this distinguished citizen, added to his powers of persuasion, his highly respectable talents, and imperturbable temper, make him not only the most adroit, but also the most powerful politician of the present day. As a gentleman, we have heretofore had occasion to say, we have great respect for him. Even under the greatest excitement of temper, he never forgets the courtesy which becomes him; or, if he does, we have never seen it. IN THE WALKS OF PRIVATE LIFE WE KNOW OF NO EXCEPTION TAKEN TO HIS PRIVATE CHARACTER."

THE ISSUE IN 1814—BANK OR NO BANK—THE SAME AS IN 1832.

"I contend that it is necessary to charter a National Bank, to regulate and control the monetary system, and keep it from explosion and mischief—that a National Bank is necessary to secure a national currency, which is as necessary to a nation as national laws."—Henry Clay's speech at Charleston.

Mr. Clay having accepted the Whig nomination for the Presidency, has refused to be present at any political assemblies hereafter. He ought to have thought of this sooner.

Gov. Dorr has been pronounced guilty by a Rhode Island Jury. Guilty of what? Why, guilty of being an American citizen; and will probably be fined and imprisoned.

Hoole Factory.—Five Woolen Factories are to be put in operation the coming fall in different portions of Maine.

The New England Book and Periodical Company are reminded that we published their Advertisement according to the terms proposed, and that we expect in return the periodical we named, which was the Christian Review, Boston.

AN Y. Correspondent of the Express says that Mr. Secretary Spencer has resigned his office of Secretary of the Treasury, on account of bad treatment from the President.

AN IMPORTANT MOVEMENT IN VIRGINIA.

At a meeting of the Shockoe Hill Democratic Association of the city of Richmond, held on the evening of May 3, Thomas Ritchie, the veteran and patriotic editor of the Enquirer, offered a series of important resolutions which were agreed to. They are principally devoted to the question of the immediate annexation of Texas.

The last one is as follows:—

"Resolved, that the Democratic Central Committee be requested forthwith to issue an Address to the Democratic Party of Virginia, urging the serious and prompt expression of their opinion on the subject of a re-annexation of Texas to the Union—the propriety of reliving their delegates to the Baltimore Convention from the instructions which now bind them, leaving them, if they deem it expedient to do so, to cast the vote of Virginia in favor of annexation, and of other action which they deem proper and efficient, in uniting the Democracy of the State in the great and vital object of defeating the election of H. Clay."

The Virginia delegates are now instructed to vote for Mr. Van Buren, of whose nomination Mr. Ritchie has been, until the present time, the powerful and uncompromising advocate.

Mr. Ritchie's paper of the same day (May 3,) contains a long article, which is the substance, and appeal to the democracy to drop Mr. Van Buren, lay aside all personal feelings, and go for some candidate more likely to defeat the disastrous pretensions of Henry Clay. The Age.

ANECDOTE OF LA FONTAINE.—It was during the reign of Louis XIV., that a curious meeting took place between La Fontaine, the fabulist, whose meekness and apathy had acquired him the name of "the Good," and an officer. Although generally blind to the irregularities of his wife, he once took it into his head to become jealous of a captain of dragoons, of the name of Poignant. La Fontaine had not himself observed the intimacy with his wife, but some kind friends had drawn his attention to its impropriety, telling him it was incumbent upon him to demand satisfaction. La Fontaine, reluctantly persuaded, contrary to his usual habits, got up early one morning, took his sword, and went out to meet his antagonist. When the parties were in presence the worthy poet said, "My dear sir, I must fight you, since I am assured that it is absolutely necessary." He then proceeded to acquaint him with the reasons that induced him to call him out, and draw his pacific sword. The dragoon, thus obliged to defend himself, wiped the weapon out of the inexperienced hand of the fabulist, and having disarmed him he proceeded quietly to point out to him the absurdity of the reports circulated in regard to his wife and the folly of having thus exposed his valuable life; adding that since his visits had occasioned scandal, he would from that hour cease to call at his house. Le Bon La Fontaine was so affected by this sincere explanation, that he had not only insisted that the captain should pay more frequent visits than ever but swore that he would fight him over again if he discontinued them.

WRIGHT'S INDIAN VEGETABLE PILLS.—They are designed to ASSIST NATURE in restoring the various organs to a healthy action, by CLEANSING the Stomach and bowels, and PURIFYING the whole System from those morbid and corrupt humors which in most cases are the cause of disease, and thus gives to the patient health for sickness, and cheerfulness for idleness. The unparalleled success which has attended the use of these Pills has introduced them to principal persons to manufacture a SPURIOUS ANTICLIC, which they endeavor to pass off as the GENUINE MEDICINE, hence the importance of purchasing only of the regular advertised Agents, N. B. Remember Thomas Crocker is the only regular authorized Agent for the sale of the above invaluable medicine in this Village, and do not purchase elsewhere, if you would be sure of obtaining the GENUINE MEDICINE.—1st 31.

LEVY D. SLAMM, Publisher.

Mr. Van Buren's letter is throughout, able, statesman-like, frank and patriotic, and will add largely to his reputation, as a pure and high-minded man.—Ag.

FRELINGHUYSEN.—The whigs are very much puzzled to find words to rhyme with the name of their candidate for Vice President. "Pisen" is the only thing approaching to it, that we can think of. Let us see:

It will not pay
To vote for Clay;
And fed'ral pisen
Is FrelinghuySEN.

That's it, precisely.—American.

Love that has nothing but beauty to keep it in good health, is short lived, and very apt to haveague fits.

Some writer has beautifully remarked, that beauty in woman is like flowers of spring, but virtue is like the stars of heaven!

The Odd Fellows of Philadelphia recently gave a concert for the benefit of the poor, by which was realized \$202, which was expended for their benefit.

Among the Mexicans it is the fashion to inoculate themselves with the poison of the rattlesnake, which renders them safe from the bite of venomous animals.

The following was written on the back of a clergyman's marriage certificate:

"Hello, hello, what's now to pay,
That I so soon am passed away;
The Person's got me one, 'tis true,
For quickly making one from two.

A blooming maiden was married to a gentleman in this city a few evenings ago, and on the same night became the mother of five beautiful and healthy children. Oh, Pie oh, Dime!—bide our unmarried heads.—Nashville Gazette.

In every hill of cucumbers, squashes, and melons, set out one or two onions! This is said to be an 'infallible' remedy for the yellow bug. Try it!

A number of negroes in Columbus, Ohio have commenced the publication of weekly newspaper.

BIRTH.—In North Carolina, the ladies of Chang-Eng, the Siamese twins, of daughters. They were confined within eight days of each other.

To what color does a flogging change a boy's complexion? It makes him yell O!

The Plebian Tracts.

NOTICE TO DEMOCRATIC ASSOCIATIONS, CLUBS AND COMMITTEES.

In consequence of the increased demand for these popular Tracts, we have reduced the price from \$2.50 to \$2 per 100, and \$20 per 1000. They are ably written, and completely explode the sophisms of the modern "Junius." They should be largely ordered by our Democratic friends throughout the country. No Democrat should be without them. All orders sent to the Plebian Office, New York City. Remittances to be made by checks of specie-paying banks, accompanying the orders, will be received.

No. 1—The Injustice of the Tariff on Revenue Principles.

No. 2—The Injustice of the Tariff on Protective Principles.

LEVI D. SLAMM, Publisher.

REED TEETH.

Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills.

The virtues of these Pills are now cheerfully and universally acknowledged by their great popularity and extensive circulation, and few who peruse this article will be found unacquainted with some proofs of their real excellence, and many will be ready to add the testimonials of their own experience in favor of this delightful medicine.

WRIGHT'S INDIAN VEGETABLE PILLS are designed to ASSIST NATURE in restoring the various organs to a healthy action, by CLEANSING the Stomach and bowels, and PURIFYING the whole System from those morbid and corrupt humors which in most cases are the cause of disease, and thus gives to the patient health for sickness, and cheerfulness for idleness.

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Remember Thomas Crocker is the only regular authorized Agent for the sale of the above invaluable medicine in this Village, and do not purchase elsewhere, if you would be sure of obtaining the GENUINE MEDICINE.—1st 31.

LEVY D. SLAMM, Publisher.

CORN and GRAIN.

THE subscriber has on hand and for sale, for cash or good security,

300 bushels of OATS & PEAS;

200 do OATS;

200 do CORN;

50 do RYE;

And a quantity of WHITE BEANS, PEAS and BARLEY.

Henry Howe, Paris Hill, April 25, 1844.

3w52

PISOLITION of Copartnership.

THE Partnership heretofore existing between the

subscribers under the firm of

HUBBARD & MARBLE,

is this day dissolved by mutual consent. All persons indebted to said firm are requested to call on either of them and settle the same immediately.

Hiram Hubbard, Jarvis C. Marble.

Paris, April 6, 1844.

NOTICE.

IT is hereby cautioned against purchasing

any article to wit.—Said Note bears date March

6th, A. D. 1844, and payable to Thomas Crocker or

order, for the sum of sixty-six dollars and five cents, due

on or by the first day of June next with interest, as the same was given without consideration, or value received.

SEW

